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SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" May I know what were the hire charges levied in this case?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The hire charges levied in this case were the same as are levied in the case of ryots who take them for agricultural purposes. I do not have with me the figures relating to the total bill."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Have the Government at any time given the tractors and caterpillars for other purposes than agriculture before the Avadi session of the Congress?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes. Sir."

Missing of pumpsets and agricultural implements from Saidapet.

* 1373 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any pumpsets and agricultural implements of the Government stores at Saidapet were found missing; and

(*b*) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Only one body block of Wisconsin engine (oil engine) was found missing out of the articles kept in the room beside the office of the District Agricultural Officer, Guindy.

" (*b*) A report to the Police has been sent for investigation; and further enquiries are being held by the Director of Agriculture."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" What will be the cost of the articles reported to be missing?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The missing thing is an old used engine. I do not have with me the present book value of that engine."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" In the Audit Reports, there is always a remark that the Government are not having proper machinery or taking proper steps to check stocks. May I know whether the Government take steps to check the stocks periodically?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir. The Government do take into account the remarks of the auditors and take necessary action thereon."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" May I know whether the staff in that office was found guilty of having removed this oil engine or whether it was a case of suspicion that the staff must have stolen the engine?"

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The case is under investigation by the Police and also by the Director of Agriculture."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" There is a wild talk in the City that articles worth some one and half lakhs of rupees were missing."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Rumours should not be referred to."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Have Government verified all stocks entered in the stock list after reports about the missing engine were received by them?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The information that I have is that they found only one engine missing and its present cost cannot be estimated at one and half lakhs of rupees."

Revenue Administration Committee.

* 1374 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the District Revenue Administration Committee has submitted its report;

(*b*) whether the Government have any proposal to change the district administrative work on the basis of the report;

(*c*) if so, the changes that are to be made; and

(*d*) whether the Committee has recommended an increase in the pay of the Non-Gazetted Officers?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) *to* (*d*) The Government are examining the recommendations made by the Committee and it may take some time for them to arrive at decisions. In the meantime, they consider it inadvisable to disclose the recommendations of the Committee."

* 1375 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Committee inquiring into district revenue administration has submitted its report to the Government; and

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of the report will be placed on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The Government consider it inadvisable to place a copy of the Report on the table of the House before it has been examined in detail by them."